PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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REC'D	0.2	AUG	2005
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P3132WO ORD	FOR FURTHER AC	CTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416				
International application No. PCT/GB2004/001418	International filing date (31.03.2004	(day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year) 02.04.2003				
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G01N33/533, C07D209/56, C07D333/02, C07B61/00, A61K38/25							
Applicant UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM et al.							
This report is the international pre Authority under Article 35 and tra	eliminary examination re ensmitted to the applican	port, established by this according to Article 36.	International Preliminary Examining				
2. This REPORT consists of a total	of 15 sheets, including	this cover sheet.					
3. This report is also accompanied t	oy ANNEXES, comprisir	ng:					
a. 🗵 sent to the applicant and t	o the International Bure	au) a total of 39 sheets	, as follows:				
	ing rectifications authori:		nended and are the basis of this report e Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the				
	sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.						
sequence listing and/or tal							
4. This report contains indications re	. This report contains indications relating to the following items:						
☐ Box No. 1 Basis of the op	inion						
☐ Box No. II Priority							
🖾 Box No. III Non-establishm	nent of opinion with rega	ard to novelty, inventive s	step and industrial applicability				
☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of	invention						
applicability; cit	tations and explanations	with regard to novelty, supporting such statem	inventive step or industrial ent				
☐ Box No. VI Certain docume			•				
1	in the international app						
☐ Box No. VIII Certain observa	ations on the internation	al application					
Date of submission of the demand		Date of completion of this	report				
28.10.2004		29.07.2005					
Name and malling address of the internation preliminary examining authority:	nal	Authorized Officer	asinas Palantena				
European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 5236 Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	656 epmu d	Österle, C Telephone No. +49 89 23	399-8120				

International application No. PCT/GB2004/001418

	Box No. I Basis of the report				
1.	. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.				
	which is the language of a tr international search (und publication of the internation	slations from the original language into the following language, ranslation furnished for the purposes of: ler Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)) tional application (under Rule 12.4) examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)			
2. With regard to the elements* of the international application, this report is based on <i>(replacement sheets have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):</i>					
	Description, Pages				
	1-5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 16-19, 21, 22, 24, 26-50	as originally filed			
	6, 9, 10, 13-15, 20, 23, 25	received on 11.04.2005 with letter of 06.04.2005			
	Claims, Numbers				
	1-46	filed with telefax on 19.07.2005			
	Drawings, Sheets				
	1/1	as originally filed			
	☐ a sequence listing and/or an	y related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing			
3.	☐ The amendments have result the description, pages the claims, Nos. ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs the sequence listing (special any table(s) related to see	s ecify):			
4.	had not been made, since they he Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)) the description, pages the claims, Nos. 9,12, 13 the drawings, sheets figs the sequence listing (specific any table(s) related to see	3, 22, 34, 35, 37-40,42-45 ecify): equence listing <i>(specify)</i> :			
	* If item 4 applies. so	ome or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."			

International application No. PCT/GB2004/001418

	Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability				
 The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of: 				ntion appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non- have not been examined in respect of:	
		☐ the entire international application,			
		☑ claims Nos. 9,12, 13, 22, 24, 25, 26, 34, 35, 37-40,42-45			
		because:			
		the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (specify):			
	\boxtimes	the description, claims or drawings (indicate particular elements below) or said claims Nos. 25 are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (specify):			
	see separate sheet				
	×	the claims, or said claims Nos. 9,12, 13, 22, 34, 35, 37-40,42-45 are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.			
	\boxtimes	no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos. 24,26			
		the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing does not comply with the standard provided for in Anne C of the Administrative Instructions in that:			
		the written form		has not been furnished	
				does not comply with the standard	
		the computer readable form		has not been furnished	
				does not comply with the standard	
		the tables related to the nucleo not comply with the technical re	tide a equir	and/or amino acid sequence listing, if in computer readable form only, do ements provided for in Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions.	
		See separate sheet for further	detai	Is	

International application No. PCT/GB2004/001418

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	Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention					
1.	 □ In response to the invitation to restrict or pay additional fees, the applicant has: □ restricted the claims. □ paid additional fees. □ paid additional fees under protest. □ neither restricted nor paid additional fees. 					
2.	This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose, according to Rule 68.1, not to invite the applicant to restrict or pay additional fees.					
3.	This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is					
		complied	d with.			
		not com	plied with for the follov	ving re	asons:	
4.	Cor	nsequentl	y, this report has beer	ı estab	olished in res	spect of the following parts of the international application:
		all parts.			٠	
	⊠	the parts	relating to claims No	s. 1-8,	10, 11, 14-2	21, 23, 27-33, 36, 41, 46 .
		x No. V olicability	Reasoned statemer			5(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial ng such statement
1.	. Statement					
	Nov	velty (N)		Yes: No:	Claims Claims	1-8, 10, 11, 14, 16-21, 23, 27-33, 41, 46
	Inve	entive ste	p (IS)	Yes: No:	Claims Claims	46 1-8, 10, 11, 14, 16-21, 23, 27-33, 41
	Ind	ustrial ap	plicability (IA)	Yes: No:	Claims Claims	1-8, 10, 11, 14, 16-21, 23, 27-33, 41, 46
2.	Cita	ations and	d explanations (Rule 7	0.7):		
	see	e separat	e sheet			
_	Во	x No. VI	Certain documents	cited		
1.	Cei	rtain publi	ished documents (Rul	e 70.1	0)	
	and	d/or				
2.	Noi	n-written	disclosures (Rule 70.9))		

see separate sheet

International application No. PCT/GB2004/001418

Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

see separate sheet

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

see separate sheet

Re Item III

Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

- 1. The Applicant filed amended claims of which many do not find support in the application as originally filed. Claims for which support could not be found/was unclear were not subject to examination. The claims concnerned are claims 9, 12, 13, 22, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, and 45.
- 2. No search report was drafted for the subject-matter of claims 24 and 26 since they have not been subject to search for the reason that there exists no unity of the subject-matter of these claims and the searched claims (see below under Item "unity").
- 3. Present claims 1-23, 25 and 27-45 relate to an extremely large number of possible compounds/products/methods. Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the compounds/products/methods claimed. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the compounds/products/methods for which the tag moiety TAG is defined as in formula FI1 on p. 20 of the description.

Consequently, the present WO-ISA relates only to those parts of the claims which have been subject to search.

New examples filed with the fax of 06.04.2005 of could therefore not be considered in this IPER, sine subject-matter relating to compounds of these examples was not subject to search.

4. The subject-matter of claim 25 is defined such that the linker is of formula V' as defined in claims 13-14 and the linker moiety is as defined in claim 8. In claims 13-14 V'=Y(Tm)L(JtTag)m. Claim 8 defines the moiety JlmLJTm. Claim 8 then does not

define a moiety present in claims 13-14.

The subject-matter of claim 25 then is unclear and consequently was not subject to examination.

Re Item IV

Lack of unity of invention

The problem to be solved by the present application can be seen in providing selective fluorescent ligands for binding at desired receptors giving reliable and effective receptor visualization and receptor selectivity with established pharmacology.

Objection regarding lack of unity already raised in the international search report:

The solution suggested to the problem are compounds of formula I or a library of compounds of formula I. The relevant technical feature of the compounds of claim I is the presence of a GPCR ligand, an inhibitor of an intracellular enzyme or a substrate or inhibitor of a drug transporter together with a tag moiety.

- 1) The compounds of formula V are considered intermediates in the process for making the compounds of formula I and therefore are considered to be unitary with the claims relating to the compounds of formula I.
- 2)Although the compounds of formula IV can be considered intermediates as well, they are not linked by a single inventive concept with the compounds of formula V. There then exists no unity between the compounds of formula V and IV.

The technical problem to be solved by the second invention can be seen in providing compounds which are a GPCR ligand, an inhibitor of an intracellular enzyme or a substrate or inhibitor of a drug transporter which can be linked to another moiety via a linker functionality. This problem has been solved in providing compounds of formula IV. The special technical feature is the structure of the compounds of formula IV. It is apparent that the technical features used to solve the two technical problems are different.

Therefore, there's no technical relationship between claims 15, 24 and 26 and the subject-matter of the claims of the first invention.

Consequently, the application lacks unity contrary to the requirement of Rule 13.1 PCT.

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

- D1: HEITHIER, HELMUT ET AL: "Synthesis and Properties of Fluorescent .beta.-Adrenoceptor Ligands" BIOCHEMISTRY, CODEN: BICHAW; ISSN: 0006-2960, vol. 33, no. 31, 1994, pages 9126-9134, XP002298679
- D2: J.C. MCGRATH ET AL: "Viewing adrenoceptors:past, present and future; commentary and a new technique" PHARMACOLOGY COMMUN, vol. 6, no. 1-3, 1995, pages 269-279, XP009037236

1. Novelty (Article 33(2) PCT):

1.1 The subject-matter of amended claim 1 comprises a proviso which excluding the compounds of D1. D1 then is not relevant for the assessment of novelty anymore.

The subject-matter of amended claim 1 furthermore has been limited in that the definition of L=single bond has been deleted. D2 then is not relevant for the assessment of novelty anymore.

Th subject-matter of claim 1 then can be considered novel.

1.2 The subject-matter of amended claim 3 corresponds to the subject-matter of claim 1 wherein additionally the or each FI is selected from a red, near ir or blue absorbing dye or from BODIPY 630/650 or BODIPY 630/650X.

The subject-matter of claim 2 therefore can be considered novel as well.

1.3 Since independent claims 1 and 2 are novel, the subject-matter of claims 3-11, 14, 18-21 which is dependent thereof is considered novel as well.

- 1.4 The subject-mater of independent claim 14 relates to a process for preparing a compound of formula I. Since the compounds of formula I are considered novel, the subject-matter of claim 14 can be considered novel as well.
- 1.5 The subject-matter of claims 16 and 17 relates to a process for selecting a compound of formula I from a library as defined in claims 1-12. Since the compounds of formula I are considered novel, the subject-matter of claims 16 and 17 can be considered novel as well.
- 1.6 The subject-matter of claim 23 relates to a kit comprising the compound of formula I or I' as defined in claims 1-12. Since the compounds of formula I are considered novel, the subject-matter of claim 23 can be considered novel as well.
- 1.7 A claim relating to a library for use in a specific application is considered as claim directed to a library suitable for use in such an application.
 - The subject-matter of claims 27-31 then in fact are library claims comprising compounds of formula I as claimed in claims 1 and 2 and can be considered novel.
- 1.8 The subject-matter o claims 32, 33 and 36 relates to a kit comprising a library or compound of formula I or I' and, since these are considered, is novel as well.
- 1.9 The subject-matter of claims 41 and 46 relates to compounds falling within the scope of claims 1 and 2. Since the subject-matter of claims 1 and 2 is considered novel, the subject-matter of claims 41 and 46 can be considered novel as well.

2. Inventive Step (Article 33(3) PCT):

2.1 The subject-matter of claim 46 comprises tagged ligands. The ligands differ from the ligands of the state of the art D1 and D2 in that the tags have different chemical structures.

The tags of claim 46 are BODIPY 630/650 which fluoresce red (maximum at ~650

nm), whereas the fluorescent tags of the prior art all fluoresce in the green and orange range (BODIPY FL at ~510 nm; erythrosine at ~550 nm).

This difference has the effect that the compounds of the present invention are more suitable for ligand binding studies since the range of fluorescence of the tags is sufficiently remote from that of the GFP cell stain conventionally used in binding studies (fluoresces in the blue region).

The prior art did not address this problem, therefore the solution suggested in claim 46 is considered non-obvious for the skilled person.

2.2 The subject-matter of claims 1 and 2 relates to libraries of compounds of the formula

In view of D1 and D2 the technical problem can be seen in providing a multitude of compounds which visualize GPCR receptor binding (see also discussion of inventive step under 2.1 above).

The nearly infinite possibilities claimed in the library of claims 1 and 2 comprises compounds which will not have the desired properties. A library of compounds can however only be inventive if all compounds solve the (same) technical problem. The presently claimed compounds however cannot be considered to all solve the technical problem since for example in claim 1 the tag can fluoresce in any range of the spectrum. Such compounds would be considered mere alternatives of the tags used in the prior art and cannot be considered inventive.

In view of the disclosure of the description the only part of claim 1 which could be considered inventive is the compounds of formula I for which Tag is a fluorescent red, near ir or blue absorbing dye and for which Lig is a GPCR ligand. It is at present not obvious from the description whether compounds for which Tag fulfils the above criteria but for which Lig is an inhibitor of an intracellular enzyme or a substrate or inhibitor of a drug transporter solve a technical problem.

The subject-matter of claim 1 therefore does not meet the criteria of Article 33(3) PCT.

In claim 2 **some of the tags** of the compounds of the library are fluorescent red, near ir or blue absorbing dyes. Since however not all compounds falling within formula I are considered to solve the technical problem, the subject-matter of claim 2 also is not considered inventive.

- 2.3 The subject-matter of dependent claims 3-8, 10, 11, 18-21, 27-31, 36, and 41 does not comprise further technical features which are considered to impart inventiveness on all compounds falling within formula I.
- 2.4 The process of claim 14 is considered to be analogous to the process disclosed in D1 and therefore cannot be considered inventive.
- 2.5 The process of claims 16 and 17 comprises methods which are part of the general methodology used in combinatorial library design. In lack of a special technical feature linked to the compounds prepared such general claims cannot be considered inventive.
- 2.6 The subject-matter of claims 23, 32 and 33 relates to kits of a compound or a library of compounds of formula I. Since not all compounds of said library are considered inventive, a kit comprising these compounds, in lack of an additional inventive technical feature cannot be considered inventive.
- 2.7 The subject-matter of claim 24 relates to linker moieties which are part of the compounds of formula I. Since not all compounds of said library are considered inventive, such linkers, in lack of an additional inventive technical feature cannot be considered inventive.

Re Item VI

Certain documents cited

S.J. BRIDDON ET AL: "Application of fluorescence correlation spectroscopy to the measurement of agonist binding to a G-protein coupled receptor at the single cell level" FARADAY DISCUSSIONS, vol. 126, 12 September 2003 (2003-09-12), pages 197-207,

XP002298675

- J.G. BAKER ET AL: "Pharmacology and direct visualization of BODIPY-TMR-CGP: A long-acting fluorescent beta2-adrenoceptor agonist" BRITISH JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY, vol. 139, no. 2, May 2003 (2003-05), pages 232-242, XP002298676
- S.J. BRIDDON ET AL: "Quantitative analysis of the formation and diffusion of A1-adenosine receptor-antagonist complexes in single living cells" PNAS, vol. 101, no. 13, 16 March 2004 (2004-03-16), pages 4673-4678, XP002298677

Re Item VII

Certain defects in the international application

1. Article 34(2)b) PCT:

- 1.1 The subject-matter of claims 12 and 22 is a mixture of different parts of the description and of specific examples. The combination of definitions now claimed in claims 12 and 22 however is nowhere disclosed in the description.
- 1.2 No basis could be found for the amended sentence in claim 13 "wherein linking.....defined".
- 1.3 In claim 9, in the definition of R.c² a moiety has been added which was not present in the application as originally filed, e.g. the substituent "C(CH₂)₂CH₂**Ph**.
- 1.4 Claim 34 does not find basis on p. 4 of the application since there is disclosed a plurality of defined and characterized *tagged* ligands.
- 1.5 Claim 35 claims that the library design is the result of extensive *pharmacological* investigation. No support for the expression "pharmacological" could be found.
- 1.6 The specific combination of definitions in claim 38 no not find support in the description as originally filed.

- 1.7 The subject-matter of claims 37 and 42 defines $LigJ_LLJ_T$ as being selected from Lig.a, Lig.b, Lig.c, and Lig.d. On pages 10 and following, Lig.a, Lig.b, Lig.c, and Lig.d in contrast represent a moiety Lig.
 - Furthermore, in the description Lig.a, Lig.b, Lig.c, and Lig.d do not comprise a functionality J_L .

The definition of Ra4 as claimed in claims 37 and 42 also cannot be found in the description.

The substituent Rd1 of claims 37 and 42 comprises wrong structures, which do not find support in the description. Also, a C1-20 spiro aromatic ring system is nowhere disclosed in the description.

- 1.8 The last formula of claim 38 does not find support in the description.
- 1.9 Claim 39 is dependent on claim 38. Since this claim is considered not to fulfil the requirements of Article 34(2)b) PCT, the objection under this Article also applies to the subject-matter of claim 39.
- 1.10 Since claims 37 and 38 are not supported by the application as originally filed, the subject-matter of claim 40, which is dependent thereof, also does not find support.
- 1.11 The last formula of claim 43 is not supported by the application as originally filed.
- 1.12 No support could be found for the specific combinations claimed in claim 43.
- 1.13 Since claims 42 and 43 are not supported by the application as originally filed, the subject-matter of claims 44 and 45, which is dependent thereof, also does not find support.

2. Further objections:

2.1 The new set of claims comprises an unduly large number of independent claims of

the same category which in fact in many cases are claims which comprise subjectmatter which could be drafted as dependent claims (Rule 6.1(a)).

2.2 Claims of the same category are not grouped together.

Re Item VIII

Certain observations on the international application

- 1. Clarity (Article 6 PCT):
- 1.1 Claims 27-31 relate to compounds/libraries and to kits, e.g. two different subject-matters.
- 1.2 Claim 34 relates to a library comprising a plurality of defined and characterized ligands having verified properties corresponding to those of the non-tagged ligand. It is unclear what the expressions "defined", "characterized" and "verified" relate to, e.g. defined how, characterized how and verified in which way.
- 1.3 The library of claim 35 is defined by a process for preparing the tagged ligands comprised in said library. The process for production of the ligands is however not considered for the assessment of novelty and inventive step of the claim.
- 1.4 The subject-matter of claim 37 comprises Rd1 which is defined as a C1-20 spiro aromatic ring system. The claim lacks clarity since there is no C1 spiro aromatic ring system.
- 1.5 The subject-matter of claims 41 and 46 lacks a reference: The sentence "...compound selected from *the structures* wherein...) dos not make sense.
- 1.6 The third and fourth compounds of claim 41 are identical.
- 1.7 The expression "with the proviso that the compound is not a compound excluded in claim 18" of claim 42 is unclear since claim 18 does not exclude a specific compound.

1.8 In present claim 1 a library of ligands of formula I is claimed. The expression "library" is unclear since both, an array of compounds, e.g. a collection of individual compounds, and a mixture of compounds fall under this expression. Present claim 1 therefore lacks clarity (Article 6 PCT).

The same applies mutatis mutandis to all other claims relating to libraries.

Since the exact nature of the library of the claims is not clear, the widest definition comprising an array or mixture is applied for the assessment of novelty and inventive step.

- 1.9 The sentence "...and a) -e) when L is a single bond, FI is not BODIPY FL.." in claim 21 does not make sense and is not supported by the application as originally filed.
- 1.10 The library of claim 30 is defined by a functional parameter relating to the detection process used to detect these compounds. Such a parameter is not suitable to define the compounds of the library and is not seen as limiting to the subject-matter of claim 30.

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More preferably a library comprises a plurality of compounds of one or more of formula II to III":

II $(\text{LigJ}_L)_m \text{ L J}_T \text{ TagJ}_T \text{ L } (\text{J}_L \text{ Lig})_m \text{ where each m is as hereinbefore defined and}$ is preferably 1 or 2, more preferably 1

III $(LigJ_L)_m L (J_TTag)_m$ wherein each m is as hereinbefore defined and is preferably 1 and/or 2, more preferably

 $\text{Lig } J_L - L - J_L \text{ Tag and/or }$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Lig } J_L - L - J_T \text{ Tag} & \text{and/or Lig } J_L - L - J_T \text{ Tag} \\ & \searrow_{J_L \text{ Lig}} & \searrow_{J_T \text{ Tag}} \end{array}$$

wherein each J_L and J_T comprises J as hereinbefore defined and may be same or different and may derive from functionality originally present in Lig or L and Tag or L or a combination thereof, characterised in that linking is at same or different linking sites in compounds comprising different Lig, J_L, L, J_T and/or Tag, and is at different linking sites in the case of any two or more compounds comprising identical Lig, J_L, L, J_T and/or Tag.

In one preferred embodiment the invention comprises a library of compounds of formula I as hereinbefore defined wherein Lig, J_L, L, J_T and Tag are the same in all compounds, and wherein the compounds differ by site of linking thereof.

In a further preferred embodiment the invention comprises a library of compounds of formula I or I' as hereinbefore defined wherein Lig and J_L are the same in all compounds and L and J_T are the same or similar in all compounds and Tag is different in some or all compounds.

In a further preferred embodiment the invention comprises a library of compounds of formula I or I' as hereinbefore defined wherein Lig- and -Tag are the same in all compounds and -L- is different in all compounds.

The library may comprise from 3 to 250 tagged ligands. Preferably the library comprises from 1 to 10 families comprising 3 to 25 tagged ligands each family comprising a ligand moiety of a common ligand type and from 3 to 25 different tag moiety types at least one of which is a fluorescent tag, more preferably each of which is a different fluorescent tag; or the library comprises from 5 to 250 fluorescently tagged ligands of different ligand type and different fluorophore type.

A library providing fluorescent ligands comprising different Fl is useful to enable studying binding, inhibition or transport with different colour fluorescence for example to distinguish from same colour native fluorescence or to distinguish plural types of binding site, enzyme, transporter or the like.

It is known that ligands modified ie by linking to a fluorophore typically undergo a change in binding affinity, inhibition or transport and suitably the library of the invention comprises characterisation of the pharmacology of each compound including binding affinity or inhibition or transport for certain GPCRs, intracellular enzymes or drug transporters. Preferably the library includes information for each

In the case that L comprises a single or double bond, J_L and J_T if present may comprise functionality derived from a reactive group or site for linking linker and fluorophore derived from the fluorescent moiety and/or the ligand moiety.

Preferably the moiety J_{Lm} L J_{Tm} comprises a mono, di, tri, tetra, penta or hexa amino, alkylthio, alkoxy, carboxylic acid, and combinations thereof more preferably a mono, di or tri aminoalkylthio, amino alkoxy, alkoxy carboxylic acid, alkoxy amine and the like. Preferably J_{Lm} L J_{Tm} is selected from mono, di or tri amino menthane, amino ethane, thio ethane, ethane, amino acyl, from polypeptide, or from mono or polyether derivatives thereof eg diamine or dithio such as mono or polyethylene glycol di or tri amine or thio.

Preferably a linker moiety J_{Lm} L J_{Tm} as hereinbefore defined comprises a single or double bond or a single atom or group as hereinbefore defined or comprises a mono-, di-, tri- or tetrafunctional linear or branched or cyclic substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbyl of formula –L.I-

 $J[A]q_LR_L[A'q_L'J']_pA''q_{L''}J''$

wherein each of J to J'' is a linking site or functionality as hereinbefore defined independently selected from a single bond, methylene, alkyne, alkene, NR, O, NRCO, S, CO, NCO, CHHal, P and the like wherein R is H or C₁₋₈ alkyl or cycloalkyl or forms part of a cyclic ring with N, Hal is any halogen selected from chlorine, iodine, bromine; and is present in any rational location in a group A to A'';

each of A to A " is a group selected from -O-, -C(=O)-, C_{1-12} alkoxy, alkoyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclic, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, arylamide, arylamine, amino, thioalkyl, heteroaryl as hereinbefore defined and combinations thereof and the like, optionally substituted by groups selected independently from C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-5} alkoxy and the like;

each of q_L to q_L" are independently-selected from 0 or 1 or indicates an oligomeric repeat and is from 2 to 30, or indicates a polymeric repeat unit and is from 31 up to 300.

 R_L is a C, N or S atom or is a $CR_{L'}$, $NR_{L'}$, alkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclic, aryl heteroaryl, amine or thio moiety and provides for branching when p is 1 or 2; wherein $R_{L'}$ is H or C_{1-3} alkyl; and

p is as hereinbefore defined and is 0, 1 or 2.

Preferably each J, J' and J' independently is a single or double bond, NR_L, -O or -S or -C(O) or -NRC(O) or -C(O)NR, as hereinbefore defined

is alkoxy preferably CH₂CH₂O (PEG) and oligomers thereof or is aralkylamine aralkylamide, aralkyloxy, or is alkyl, preferably (CH₂)₁.

R_L is a C₁₋₅ alkyl chain comprising or containing a single or double branching C atom when p is 1 or 2;

45 p is 0, 1 or 2;

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A' and A'' are each selected from C_{1-8} alkyl, amine, phenylamine, phenylamide; and

 q_L is 0, 1, 2 to 30 or 31 to 300, and $q_{L'}$ and $q_{L''}$ are 0 or 1

More preferably $J_{Lm} \mathrel{L} J_{Tm}$ is a single bond or is of formula

JAqLRLJ"

wherein each of J and J'' is amine or -O-, A is CH₂CH₂O, q_L is 1-30 or 31 to 300 and R_L is CH₂CH₂

or of formula

J Aq_L R_L(A'J') J"

wherein each of J, J' and J'' independently is amine, -O or a single bond, q_L is 1, 2 or 3 -30 or 31 to 300 and A is CH_2CH_2O or $HNCH_2CO$ or q_L is 1 and A is C(O) or

10 (CH₂)₁₋₈ or q_L is 0, R_L is CH or CH₂CH, q_L is 0 or q_L' is 1 and A' is CH₂ and q_L is 0 preferably

O(CH₂CH₂O)q_LCH₂CH₂NH, O(CH₂CH₂O)q_LCH₂CH(CH₂NH)NH,

OCH(CH₂NH)NH, -CH(CH₂NH)NH, -C(O) NH-, -(CH₂)_{1.8}-, (-HNCH₂CO-)_{1.3} (= -gly₁₋₃-) - or the like.

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More preferably each compound of formula I or I' as hereinbefore defined comprises a moiety Lig and L as hereinbelow defined:

Wherein:

Lig.a_m is suitably of the formula, in either of the following forms given, including any of its possible linking configurations or sites:

Lig.a m

Wherein

any or each of Ra¹ to Ra⁴, X¹ and X² may comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined

X¹ and X² are each independently selected from H, O, OR.a, NR.a, NHR.a;

 X^1 and X^2 are each preferably O;

each of R.a¹, R.a², R.a³ and R.a⁴ independently is selected from H or C₁₋₄ linear or branched alkyl, preferably H, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, t-butyl or isobutyl optionally mono or multi hydroxy or halo substituted, such as CH₂OH, CH₂F or

CH₂CHOHCH₂OH;

 $R.a^4$ is selected from a heteroatom O, S or substituted or unsubstituted amine or saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C_{1-20} branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P; wherein optional substituents are selected from any C_{1-12} aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore

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is as hereinbefore defined for L or its subformulae, more preferably is saturated and unsaturated substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₁₂ aliphatic or C₁₋₂₄ aromatic as defined for L preferably including one or more heteroatoms O, S or N, cyclic or heterocyclic groups, more preferably is of formula L.I or its subformulae as hereinbefore defined, most preferably is (CH₂)m wherein m is 2 to 12, preferably 3, 4, 6 or 8, or is (Ph-CH₂CONH)₂ (CH₂)₂;

Lig.c is suitably of the formula Lig.c including any of its possible linking 10 configurations or sites:

Lig.c

HOC*(R.c1)CH2NH-R.c2

Where

any or each of Rc1 to Rc2 or OH, or a chain C or N may comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined

* indicates an optically active centre and

Wherein R.c1 is C₆₋₁₄ aryl optionally including one or more heteroatoms selected from H, O, optionally substituted by OH, Hal eg Cl, NH2, NHC1-3alkyl, sulphonamide, oxoamine (-CONH2) and the like, more preferably mono, di or tri substituted phenyl or quinoline wherein substituents include OH, Cl or NH2, more preferably m-CH2OH, p-OH phenyl, m-,p-dihydroxy phenyl or m-,m-dihydroxyphenyl, m-,mdiCl, p-NH₂ phenyl, p-OH, m-CONH₂ phenyl or 5-OH, 8-quinoline and the like, such as

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R.c2 is selected from saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₂₀, preferably C₁₋₁₂, branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P; wherein optional substituents are selected from any optionally substituted C₁₋₁₂ aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo, cyano, and the like and combinations thereof:

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Preferably

R.c² is selected from C₁₋₆ branched or straight chain aliphatic, C₆₋₁₀ araliphatic optionally substituted by OH and optionally including heteroatoms selected from N,O, preferably including an ether O, such -(CH₂)₆OCH((CH₂)₃Ph),from CHCH₃(CH₂)₂Ph, CHCH₃CH₂PhOH, C(CH₃)₂CH₂Ph or from the structures:

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$$NH_2$$
 $H = \sqrt{\frac{NH_2}{3}}$

- may be present as R.c² or may comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined, and is as hereinbefore defined for L and is suitably of formula L.I or its subformulae as hereinbefore defined, more preferably is selected from C₁₋₁₂ alkyl, amide etc;
- Lig.d is suitably a non-peptide of the formula Lig.d including any of its possible linking configurations or sites:

Lig.d R.d1 OCH2C*HOHCH2NH-R.d2

15 where any or each of Rd¹ to Rd² or OH, a chain C or N may comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined

* indicates an optically active centre

Wherein R.d¹ is saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₂₀ branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P; wherein optional substituents are selected from any C₁₋₁₂ aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo, cyano, and the like;

Preferably R.d¹ is substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₂₄ aralkyl or heteroaralkyl, including single ring and fused ring systems with (hetero)aryl or cycloalkyl rings, wherein optional substituents include C₁₋₆ alkyl, alkoxy, ether, carbonyl, alkenyl, amine, amide each optionally carbonyl, amide, halo or OH substituted, or halo such as chloro or OH, preferably R.d¹ is unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, alkenyl, halo, amine, amide, carbonyl, ketone, ether substituted phenyl or naphthyl, illustrated as follows, most preferably mono-, di-, tri- or tetra substituted mono or polycyclic fused aryl or cycloaryl or heterocycloaryl such as phenyl, carbazole or structures shown below or spiro ring systems, most preferably mono-, di-, tri- or tetra alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxyalkyl or CF₃ substituted phenyl or unsubstituted or monosubstituted naphthalene or 5,6 ring systems most preferably of the structures:



$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & \\ & & \\$$

 $R.d^2$

is substituted or unsubstituted amine, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₁₂ branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P; wherein optional substituents are selected from any C₁₋₁₂ aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo, cyano, and the like, more preferably amine, C₁₋₆ branched or straight chain alkyl optionally including ether O, and optionally substituted by C₆₋₁₀ aryl, for example i.pr, i.bu, or of the formula:

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L.d

may be present as R.d² or may comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined and is as hereinbefore defined for L and its subformulae and is suitably of formula L.I and its subformulae as hereinbefore defined, more preferably is a single bond or is as hereinbefore defined for L.a;

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Lig.e comprises a cell permeant moiety or is associated with a cell permeant L or Fl moiety and is suitably of the formula, in either of the following forms given including any of its possible linking configurations or sites:

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derived from linking via a reactive group as hereinbefore defined such as carboxyl, sulphonate or as a heteroatom such as O or S or methylene derived from linking at an alkylhalide such as methylbromide, haloacetamide, sulphonate ester or the like electrophilic group.

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Fl may include a substituent –t- as hereinbefore defined which is heteroaryl or alkenyl such as mono-, di- or tri -enyl group which shifts the fluorescence of the compound to the red part of the spectrum and raises the absorption max value as in US 5187288; or may include alkenyl substituent linked to one or more of an aryl, carbonyl or like group, preferably linked to a fatty acid sidechain comprising (CH- $_2$)nCO₂H where n = 5 - 22 as in US 5330854, more preferably linked via an aryloxymethylene to a and carbonyl; or may include an aryl alkenyl aryl group as in US 6005113.

15 More preferably -Fl is of the formula -Fl¹:

Fl¹ dipyrrometheneborondifluoride analogues including any of its possible linking configurations or sites:

$$R^{5} \xrightarrow{R^{4}} R^{7} \xrightarrow{R^{1}} R^{2}$$

20 Wherein

any or each of R¹ to R⁷, or a ring atom may comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined

R7 is N or C-R8;

Substituents R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁸ which may be the same or different are H, halogen, nitro, sulfo, cyano, alkyl, perfluoroalkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, or acyl wherein the alkyl portions of each contain fewer than 20 carbons; or substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl; preferably at least four of R¹ to R⁸ are non-hydrogen, alternatively adjacent substituents R1 and R2 taken in combination and adjacent substituents R5 and R6 taken in combination form fused 6-membered (hetero) aromatic rings

30 or

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$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & R^7 \\
 & R^4 & F & R^3
\end{array}$$

including any of its possible linking configurations or sites:

wherein any or each of R³, R⁴ or R⁷, or a ring atom may comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined

each fused ring is optionally and independently substituted by H, halogen, nitro, sulfo, cyano, alkyl, perfluoroalkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, alkylthio, alkylamido, amino, (mono or dialkyl)amino (wherein the alkyl portions of each

linker precursors wherein linking may be at same or different reactive sites in different compounds as hereinbefore defined.

Preferably the process is a combinatorial process. Preferably the process comprises the reaction of one or more ligand precursors of formula IV and/or IV'

IV $(\text{LigJ}_L)_m - L - Y_{Ln}$

IV' Lig Y_{Lign}

comprising one or more or different reactive groups Y_L or Y_{Lig} forming a linking functionality J, J_L or J_T as hereinbefore defined

with one or more of a plurality of analytical tagging substrates of formula V and/or V'

V Y_{Tm} Tag

V' $Y_{Tm} L (J_T Tag)_m$

comprising one or more or different reactive groups Y_T forming a linking functionality J or J_T as hereinbefore defined

and optionally one or more linking species VI or VI' or VI'

 $VI Y_{Lm} L Y_{Lm}$

wherein Lig, J, L, J_T and Tag and each m is independently as hereinbefore defined wherein the or each compound of formula IV or IV' is capable of reaction with the or each compound of formula V or V', optionally via the or each species VI or VI' or VI' to form a plurality of compounds of formula I as hereinbefore defined.

Preferably in some or each compound of formula V or V', Tag is Fl as hereinbefore defined, whereby the process is a process for preparing a library comprising a plurality of compounds of which one or more or all of which are of formula I' as hereinbefore defined.

Suitably reactive groups Y_{Lig}, Y_L, Y_T have suitable reactive group functionalities for linking, as hereinbefore defined, for example by substitution or by addition or addition – elimination reaction. Substitution reaction is suitably selected from reaction of electrophilic and nucleophilic reactive sites as hereinbefore defined such as:

35	Electrophilic Y	Nucleophilic Y	Resulting covalent Linkage, J	leaving groups
	Carboxylic acid	alcohol	ester	-OH, -H
	Carboxylic acid	amine	carboxamide	-OH, -H
	Carboxylic acid	hydrazine	hydrazide	-OH, -H
	Alkyl halide	alcohol	ether	-Hal, -H
40	Alkyl halide	thiol	thioether	-Hal, -H
	Alkyl halide	amine	alkylamine	-Hal, -H
	Alkyl halide	COOH	ester	-Hal, -H
	Haloacetamides	thiols	thioethers	-Hal, -H
	Sulphonate esters	amines	alkyl amines	RSO ₃ -, -H
45	Sulphonate esters	alcohols	ethers	RSO ₃ -, -H·
	Sulphonate esters	thiols	thioethers	RSO ₃ -, -H
	Sulphonyl halides	amines	sulphonamides-Hal,	-H
	Sulphonyl halides	alcohols	sulphonate esters	-Hal, -H



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known methods which prejudice yields by use of non chemoselective reactive groups or protecting groups.

Preferably the compounds of formula I or I' are obtained by:

reacting the unprotected primary alkyl amine group of a compound of formula IV as hereinbefore defined with a compound of formula V comprising a reactive succinimidyl ester group in solvent at ambient temperature without need for subsequent deprotection. In a particular advantage of the invention the method provides greater yield than with the prior art processes.

Compounds of formula IV, IV', V', V' or VI may be commercially available or may be prepared by known means. A linker may be installed as an independent entity or may be constructed as part of a synthetic process as hereinbefore defined, preferably is synthesised as an additional substituent on the ligand moiety or fluorescent moiety prior to reaction thereof.

In a further aspect of the invention there is provided a process for the preparation of a compound of formula I as hereinbefore defined comprising the reaction of a compound of formula IV or IV' and a compound of formula V or V' and optionally additionally VI, as hereinbefore defined.

In a further aspect of the invention there is provided a process for the preparation of a compound of formula IV as hereinbefore defined comprising: obtaining where commercially available or preparing the ligand precursor Lig, by routes as known in the art, and reacting with linker precursor VI'', if required, or components thereof, and/or generating one or more reactive sites Y or Y_{Lig} or Y_L. Protection of IV may be required in which case reaction is followed by removing any protecting group present during the reaction, optionally replacing with a protecting group which may be removed under ambient conditions. A reactive group Y or Y_{Lig} or Y_L is preferably selected from groups as hereinbefore defined.

Preferably the process comprises:

- a), e) ring closure of 5,6-diamino-1,3-dialkyl uracil with the appropriate substituted aldehyde under acid conditions with ferric chloride,
- b) reacting Lig.b- comprising a protected inosine derivative with chlorinating agent and linking the chloro derivative with the amine group of a suitably protected amine reactive linker H-L-P_L wherein P_L comprises N-benzyloxycarbonyl- to form Lig.b L-P_L and removing P_L to generate Lig.b -L.b; preferably R.b¹ comprises a OH terminating group and protected inosine comprises Acyl protecting groups or R.b¹ comprises a stable group such as amine or amide and protected inosine comprises 2,2-dimethoxypropane protecting group; preferably the protected inosine is reacted.
 - 2,2-dimethoxypropane protecting group; preferably the protected inosine is reacted with oxidising agent and protected alkylamine which is an *N*-alkylcarboxamide with removal of amine protecting group to generate a reactive ligand;
- c), d) reacting p-hydroxybenzaldehyde with formaldehyde under acid catalysis and protection of the resulting 4-hydroxy-3-hydroxymethylbenzaldehyde with dimethoxypropane to generate the resulting acetonide. Converting the Benzaldehyde to its corresponding epoxide and ring opening with a suitably protected linker such as



CLAIMS

1. Library comprising a plurality of tagged ligands of formula I

$$(\text{Lig }J_L)_m \ L \ (J_T \ \text{Tag})_m \ (J_T \ L \ (J_L \ \text{Lig})_m)_n$$

and salts thereof wherein any optically active fluorescent ligand is present as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers

comprising one or a plurality of same or different ligand moieties Lig each linked to one or a plurality of same or different tag moieties Tag via same or different linker moieties L and same or different linking site or linking functionality J_T and J_L

wherein Lig comprises a GPCR ligand, an inhibitor of an intracellular enzyme or a substrate or inhibitor of a drug transporter;

L

is selected from a double bond, -O-, -S-, amine, COO-, amide, -NN-hydrazine; and saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₆₀₀ branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P, wherein optional substituents are selected from any C₁₋₂₀ aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo, cyano and carbonyl and combinations thereof, and L may be monomeric, oligomeric having oligomeric repeat of 2 to 30 or polymeric having polymeric repeat in excess of 30 up to 300;

Tag

is any tagging substrate;

m

are each independently selected from a whole number integer from 1 to

3:

p is 0 to 3

wherein one or more of each -Tag in one or more or each library compound is a fluorophore entity -Fl, whereby the library comprises compounds of which one or more or all of which are of formula I'

 $(LigJ_L)_m L (J_T Fl)_m (J_T L (J_L Lig)_m)_p$

characterised in that linking is at same or different linking sites in compounds comprising different Lig, J_L , L J_T and/or – Tag and is at different linking sites in compounds comprising same Lig, J_L , L J_T and/or – Tag

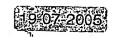
with the proviso that when Lig is CGP12177 and L is 1,1,4,4-tetramethyl butylamine $C(CH_3)_2(CH_2)_2C(CH_3)_2NH$ -, Fl is not BODIPY® FL, or when L is $C(CH_3)_2(CH_2)_2$ - $C(CH_3)_2NHCSNH$ – then Fl is not FITC, eosin or erythrosin.

Library comprising a plurality of tagged ligands of formula I

$$(\text{Lig }J_L)_m \ L (J_T \text{ Tag})_m (J_T L (J_L \text{ Lig})_m)_p$$

and salts thereof wherein any optically active fluorescent ligand is present as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers

comprising one or a plurality of same or different ligand moieties Lig each linked to one or a plurality of same or different tag moieties Tag via same or different linker moieties L and same or different linking site or linking functionality J_T and J_L



wherein Lig comprises a GPCR ligand, an inhibitor of an intracellular enzyme or a substrate or inhibitor of a drug transporter;

L

is selected from a double bond, -O-, -S-, amine, COO-, amide, -NN-hydrazine; and saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₆₀₀ branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P, wherein optional substituents are selected from any C₁₋₂₀ aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo, cyano and carbonyl and combinations thereof, and L may be monomeric, oligomeric having oligomeric repeat of 2 to 30 or polymeric having polymeric repeat in excess of 30 up to 300;

Tag

is any tagging substrate:

m

are each independently selected from a whole number integer from 1 to

3; .

is 0 to 3

wherein one or more of each -Tag in one or more or each library compound is a fluorophore entity -Fl, whereby the library comprises compounds of which one or more or all of which are of formula I'

 $(\text{LigJ}_L)_m \ L \ (J_T \ Fl)_m \ (J_T \ L \ (J_L \text{Lig})_m)_p$

wherein linking is at same or different linking sites in compounds comprising different Lig, J_L , L J_T and/or – Tag and is at different linking sites in compounds comprising same Lig, J_L , L J_T and/or – Tag

with the proviso that when Lig is CGP12177 and L is 1,1,4,4-tetramethyl butylamine $C(CH_3)_2(CH_2)_2C(CH_3)_2NH$ -, Fl is not BODIPY® FL, or when L is $C(CH_3)_2(CH_2)_2$ - $C(CH_3)_2NHCSNH$ – then Fl is not FITC, eosin or erythrosin

characterised in that the or each Fl is selected from a red, near ir or blue absorbing dye or from BODIPY® 630/650 or BODIPY® 630/650 X.

- Library as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 2 wherein each compound of formula I or I' comprises one of a plurality of fluorophores and/or tags providing a library of differently fluorescently tagged ligands comprising one or a number of different fluorophores optionally of different chemical composition or spectral characteristics; and/or providing a library of differently tagged ligands including at least one fluorescently tagged ligand; alternatively each compound of formula I or I' comprises one of a plurality of precursor ligands linked each to one or a plurality of different tags providing a library of same or differently tagged ligands of plural ligand type; alternatively each compound of formula I comprises one of a plurality of linkers linking a precursor ligand and at least one Tag at the same or different linking site; alternatively each compound of formula I comprises the same linker linking a precursor ligand and at least one Tag at different linking sites providing a library of differently linked tagged ligands of different conformation or anticipated pharmacology and binding.
- 4 Library as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 3 comprising a plurality of compounds of one or more of formula II to III:
- II (LigJ_L)_m L J_T TagJ_T L (J_L Lig)_m where each m is as hereinbefore defined and is preferably 1 or 2, more preferably 1

III $(LigJ_L)_m$ L $(J_TTag)_m$ wherein each m is as hereinbefore defined and is preferably 1 and/or 2, more preferably

Lig
$$J_L - L - J_L$$
 Tag and/or
Lig $J_L - L - J_T$ Tag and/or
 J_L Lig $J_L - L - J_T$ Tag

wherein each J_L and J_T comprises J as hereinbefore defined and may be same or different and may derive from functionality originally present in Lig or L and Tag or L or a combination thereof, characterised in that linking is at same or different linking sites in compounds comprising different Lig, J_L , L, J_T and/or Tag, and is at different linking sites in the case of any two or more compounds comprising identical Lig, J_L , L, J_T and/or Tag.

- Library as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 4 including information for each compound of formula I comprised in the Library, relating to the pharmacology for binding to or inhibition of a GPCR receptor or to inhibition of an intracellular cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterase, or inhibition of or transport by a drug transporter including designation as agonist, antagonist, substrate or inhibitor and measure of affinity or inhibition, enabling quantification of results.
- Library as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 5 wherein a GPCR ligand is selected from any compound which is effective as an agonist or antagonist for an adenosine receptor, a beta-adrenoceptor, a muscarinic receptor, a histamine receptor, an opiate receptor, a cannabinoid receptor, a chemokine receptor, an alpha-adrenoceptor, a GABA receptor, a prostanoid receptor, a 5-HT (serotonin) receptor, an excitatory aminoacid receptor (glutamate), a dopamine receptor, a protease-activating receptor, a neurokinin receptor, an angiotensin receptor, an oxytocin receptor, a leukotriene receptor, a nucleotide receptor (purines and pyrimidines), a calcium-sensing receptor, a thyroid-stimulating hormone receptor, a neurotensin receptor, a vasopressin receptor, an olfactory receptor, a nucleobase receptor (adenosine), a lysophosphatidic acid receptor, a sphingolipid receptor, a tyramine receptor (trace amines), a free-fatty acid receptor and a cyclic nucleotide receptor; an inhibitor of intracellular enzymes is an inhibitor of cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterases; and a substrate or inhibitor of a drug transporter is selected from a substrate or inhibitor of an equilibrium based drug transporter or ATP driven pump selected from a catecholamine transporter, a nucleoside transporter, an ATP-binding cassette transporter, a cyclic nucleotide transporter or derivatives or analogues thereof; or wherein Lig is selected from
- a) xanthine like structures including XAC, theophylline, caffeine, theobromine, dyphilline, enprofylline; or fused biaryl structures including papaverine, dihydroquinilones, cilostamide, dipyridamole or vinpocetine; and analogues thereof;
- b) adenosine like structures including ADAC, NECA and analogues thereof;
- c) ethanolamine like structures including salmeterol, salbutamol, terbutaline, quinprenaline, labetalol, sotalol, bambuterol, fenoterol, reprotolol, tulobuterol, clenbuterol and analogues thereof;
- d) oxypropanolamine like structures including CGP12177, propranolol, practolol, acebutalol, betaxolol, ICI 118551, alprenolol, celiprolol (celectol), metoprolol (betaloc), CGP20712A, atenolol, bisoprolol, misaprolol, carvedilol, bucindolol, esmolol, nadolol, nebivolol, oxprenolol, xamoterol, pindolol, timolol and analogues thereof;



- e) xanthine like structures including XAC, theophylline, caffeine, theobromine, dyphilline, enprofylline, sildenafil, EHNA (erythro-9-(2-hydroxyl-3-nonyl)adenine), zaprinast; or spiro bicyclic structures including bypyridines, amrinone; imidazolines, CI930; dihydropyridazinones, indolan, rolipram, SB207499; or fused biaryl structures including papaverine, dihydroquinilones, cilostamide, dipyridamole, vinpocetine and analogues thereof.
- Library as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 6 wherein J_{Lm} L J_{Tm} comprises a mono, di, tri, tetra, penta, or hexa amino, alkylthio, alkoxy, carboxylic acid, and combinations thereof including a mono, di or tri aminoalkylthio, amino alkoxy, alkoxy carboxylic acid or alkoxy amine, mono, di or tri amino menthane, amino ethane, thio ethane, ethane, amino acyl, polypeptide, or mono or polyether derivatives including diamine or dithio derivatives, mono or polyethylene glycol di or tri amine or thio;

or comprises a mono-, di-, tri- or tetra, penta or hexafunctional linear or branched or cyclic substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbyl of formula -L.I-

$J[A]q_LR_L[A'q_L'J']_pA''q_L''J''$

wherein each of J to J" is a linking site or functionality as hereinbefore defined independently selected from a single or double bond, methylene, alkyne, alkene, NR, O, CONR, NRCO, S, CO, NCO, CHHal and P wherein R is H or C_{1-8} alkyl or cycloalkyl or forms part of a cyclic ring with N, Hal is any halogen selected from chlorine, iodine, bromine; and is present in any rational location in a group A to A"; each of A to A" is a group selected from -O-, -C(=O)-, C_{1-12} alkoxy, alkoyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclic, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, arylamide, arylamine, amino, thioalkyl, heteroaryl as hereinbefore defined and combinations thereof, optionally substituted by groups selected independently from C_{1-3} alkyl and C_{1-5} alkoxy; each of q_L to q_L " are independently-selected from 0 or 1 or indicates an oligomeric repeat and is from 2 to 30, or indicates a polymeric repeat unit and is from 31 up to

300. R_L

p

is a C, N or S atom or is a $CR_{L'}$, $NR_{L'}$, alkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclic, aryl heteroaryl, amine or thio moiety and provides for branching when p is 1 or 2; wherein $R_{L'}$ is H or C_{1-3} alkyl; and is as hereinbefore defined and is 0, 1 or 2.

8. Library as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 7 wherein J_{Lm} L J_{Tm} is of formula J Aq_L R_L J"

wherein each of J and J" is amine or -O-, A is CH_2CH_2O , q_L is 1-30 or 31 to 300 and R_L is CH_2CH_2

or of formula

 $J Aq_L R_L(A'J') J''$

wherein each of J, J' and J'' independently is amine, -O or a single bond, q_L is 1, 2 or 3-30 or 31 to 300 and A is CH_2CH_2O or $HNCH_2CO$ or q_L is 1 and A is C(O) or $(CH_2)_{1-8}$ or q_L is 0, R_L is CH or CH_2CH , q_L is 0 or q_L is 1 and A' is CH_2 and q_L is 0 preferably

 $O(CH_2CH_2O)q_LCH_2CH_2NH$, $O(CH_2CH_2O)q_LCH_2CH(CH_2NH)NH$, $OCH(CH_2NH)NH$, $-CH(CH_2NH)NH$, -C(O) NH-, $-(CH_2)_{1-8}$ - or $(-HNCH_2CO-)_{1-3}$ (= -gly₁₋₃-) -

9. Library as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 8 wherein each compound of formula I or I' comprises a moiety Lig and L as hereinbelow defined:

Wherein:

any optically active fluorescent ligand is present as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers

Lig.a_m is suitably of the formula, in either of the following forms given, including any of its possible linking configurations or sites:

Lig.a 1 m

Wherein

at least one or all of Ra^1 to Ra^4 , X^1 and X^2 comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined

X¹ and X² are each independently selected from H, O, OR.a, NR.a, NHR.a:

X1 and X2 are each preferably O;

each of R.a¹, R.a², R.a³ and R.a⁴ independently is selected from H or C₁₋₄ linear or branched alkyl optionally mono or multi hydroxy or halo substituted:

R.a4 is selected from a heteroatom O, S or substituted or unsubstituted amine or saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C_{1-20} branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P; wherein optional substituents are selected from any C_{1-12} aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo and cyano; including optionally substituted aryl, cycloalkyl, alkyl, ketone, (di)amine, (di)amide, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, carboxylic acid or optionally o-, m- or p- substituted phenyl wherein substituents include aryl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroalkyl, amine, amide, carboxyl, carbonyl or R.a4 comprises cyclopentyl, ethoxy, (CH2)2PhPh, CH2Ph, CONH(CH2)nCONH, CH2CONH(CH2)2NH, CH2PhNHCOCH2, CH2CH2OCOCH2, succinimidyl NHCOCH2, CH₂(CH₃)NCOCH₂, H₂N(CH₂)₂NHCOCH₂, H₂N(CH₂)₈NHCOCH₂, H₂NNHCOCH₂, CH2CONH(CH2)2NHCOCH2, HOPhCH₂N(CH₂CH₃.HOAc)(CH₂)₂NHCOCH₂, heterocyclic-(CH₂)₄CONH(CH₂)₂NHCOCH₂ or

heterocyclic-NHCON(heterocyclic)COCH2;

wherein at least one or all of Ra^5 to Ra^6 , or a cyclic C or heteroatom comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined, each of $C:_{A1}$ and $C:_{A2}$ is independently selected from C_{5-6} aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl and heterocyclic, more preferably from phenyl, or aryl containing 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms, or heterocyclic containing 1 ring heteroatom and/or 1 ring -C=C-group;

Each of up to seven R.a⁵ is a substituent of a ring carbon or a ring heteroatom and:

is independently selected from H, halo, hydroxy, thiol, amine, COOH, hydrazine, cyano, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₂₀ branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P, and wherein optional substituents are selected from any C₁₋₁₂ aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo =O or cyano; OCH₃, CH₂Ph(OCH₃)₂, O(CH₂)₃CON(CH₃)c.hex, N(CH₂CH₂OH)₂, c.hex, COOCH₂CH₃, CH₂CH₃;

or any two or more of R.a⁵ form a one, two or three ring fused cyclic structure, a fused 3 ring aryl, 5-heterocyclic or 6-heterocyclic structure having 4 ring atoms common with the fused bicyclic Lig.a² structure;

and R.a⁶ is a moiety as defined for R.a⁵ above;

and L.a is as hereinbefore defined for L or J_L L J_T or L.I or subformulae as hereinbefore defined, or is a single bond, amino acid or amide including a peptide or polypeptide gly or gly₃, alkyl of formula $-(CH_2)_n$ where n is 3 to 8, optionally including one or more heteroatoms or unsaturated groups, including -O- or -S- or -CH=-CH-:

Lig.b is suitably of the formula Lig.b including any of its possible linking configurations or sites:

Lig.b

wherein at least one or all of Rb¹ to Rb⁵ or Xb¹ to Xb³ comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined

ring substituents X.b¹ and X.b² are independently selected from hydrocarbon including alkyl or SR_X, NR_{X.2} and OR_X wherein (each) R_X is selected from H, C₁₋₅alkyl, alkenyl; ring heteroatom X.b³ is selected from -S-, -O- and -CH₂-;

Rb¹ is selected from saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₄ aliphatic, or C₁₋₃ alicyclic optionally including one or more heteroatoms N, O, S, P, wherein substituent(s) are selected from one or more cycloalkyl, heterocyclic, hydroxy, oxo, halo, amine; or R.b1 comprises a carbonyl substituted by H, alkyl or a linear or cyclic primary, secondary or tertiary amine, substituted C₁₋₃ alkyl, cycloalkyl or amide, cyclopropyl, or CONHC₁₋₃alkyl including CONHEt or CH₂OH

each of R.b² and R.b³ is selected from H, halo, hydroxy, thiol, amine, and COOH, CHO, hydrazine, cyano or saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₂₀ branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P; wherein optional substituents are selected from any C₁₋₁₂ aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo or cyano, preferably from H, halo or hydroxy;

Rb⁴ is H:

Rb⁵ is H or alkyl

comprises a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined; and L.b is as hereinbefore defined for L or its subformulae, more preferably is saturated and unsaturated substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₁₂ aliphatic or C₁₋₂₄ aromatic as defined for L optionally including one or more heteroatoms O, S or N, cyclic or heterocyclic groups, or is of formula L.I or its subformulae as hereinbefore defined, or is (CH₂)m wherein m is 2 to 12, or is $(Ph-CH_2CONH)_2$ $(CH_2)_2$;

Lig.c is of the formula Lig.c including any of its possible linking configurations or sites:

Lig.c

HOC*(R.c¹)CH₂NH-R.c²
Rc¹
N Rc²

where

at least one or all of Rc1 to Rc2 or OH, or a chain C or N comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined * indicates an optically active centre and

wherein R.c' is C₆₋₁₄ aryl optionally including one or more heteroatoms selected from H, O, optionally substituted by OH, Hal, NH₂, NHC₁₋₃alkyl, sulphonamide, oxoamine or (-CONH₂), or is mono, di or tri substituted phenyl or quinoline wherein substituents include OH, Cl or NH2, or is m-CH₂OH, p-OH phenyl, m-,p-dihydroxy phenol or m-,mdihydroxyphenol, m-,m-diCl, p-NH2 phenol, p-OH, m-CONH2 phenol or 5-OH, 8-quinoline,

R.c² is selected from saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₂₀ branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P; wherein optional substituents are selected from any optionally substituted C₁₋₁₂ aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo or cyano and combinations thereof; or R.c² is selected from C₁₋₆ branched or straight chain aliphatic, C₆₋₁₀ araliphatic optionally substituted by OH and optionally including heteroatoms selected from N,O, optionally including an ether O, and is selected from –(CH₂)₆OCH((CH₂)₃Ph), CHCH₃(CH₂)₂Ph, CHCH₃CH₂PhOH, C(CH₃)₂CH₂Ph or from the structures:

L.c

is present as $R.c^2$ or comprises a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined, and is as hereinbefore defined for L, formula L.I or its subformulae as hereinbefore defined, or is selected from C_{1-12} alkyl, amide;

Lig.d is of the formula Lig.d including any of its possible linking configurations or sites:

Lig.d

R.d1 OCH2C*HOHCH2NH-R.d2

where

at least one or all of Rd¹ to Rd² or OH, a chain C or N comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined

* indicates an optically active centre

wherein

R.d¹ is saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C_{1-20} branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P; wherein optional substituents are selected from any C_{1-12} aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo or cyano; or R.d¹ is substituted or unsubstituted C_{1-24} aralkyl or heteroaralkyl, including single ring and fused ring systems with (hetero)aryl or cycloalkyl rings, wherein optional substituents include C_{1-6} alkyl, alkoxy, ether,

carbonyl, alkenyl, amine, amide each optionally carbonyl, amide, halo or OH substituted, or halo or OH, amine, amide, carbonyl, ketone, ether substituted phenyl or naphthyl, mono-, di-, tri- or tetra substituted mono or polycyclic fused aryl or cycloaryl or heterocycloaryl including phenyl, carbazole or structures shown below or spiro ring systems, mono-, di-, tri- or tetra alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxyalkyl or CF₃ substituted phenyl or unsubstituted or monosubstituted naphthalene or 5,6 ring systems:

 $R.d^2$

is substituted or unsubstituted amine, saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C_{1-12} branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P; wherein optional substituents are selected from any C_{1-12} aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo or cyano, more preferably amine, C_{1-6} branched or straight chain alkyl optionally including ether O, and optionally substituted by C_{6-10} aryl, or of the formula:

L.d

may be present as R.d² or may comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined and is as hereinbefore defined for L and its

subformulae, formula L.I and its subformulae as hereinbefore defined, or is a single bond or is as hereinbefore defined for L.a;

Lig.e comprises a cell permeant moiety or is associated with a cell permeant L or Fl moiety or is of the formula, in either of the following forms given including any of its possible linking configurations or sites:

Lig.e1

wherein

at least one or all of Re¹ to Re⁴, X and a ring C or N comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined

h is selected from

each optionally substituted by $R.e^3 - R.e^4$ wherein $R.e^1 - R.e^4$ are as $R.a^1 - R.a^4$ defined above or in which $R.e^3$ is $C_{5.9}$ linear or branched alkyl, optionally mono or multi hydroxy or halo substituted or is aryl optionally substituted by alkoxy or sulfonyl,

each X is independently selected from H, O, -OR.e², N, HN, NR.e⁵, HR.e⁶, and aryl optionally substituted by ether; or X is aryl optionally alkyl or alkoxy substituted or is Ph-ortho-OCH₂CH₂CH₃;

and

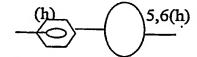
where R.e⁵ is as defined above for R.e¹ above or forms a fused cyclic ring together with the adjacent ring N atom, or 1 or 2 fused 5 membered cyclic rings;

and

 $R.e^6$ is as defined above for $R.e^1$ above or is selected from optionally substituted phenyl wherein optional substituents include ether, oethoxy or o-propoxy, alkyl or OH, sulphonyl or carbonyl substituted by heterocyclic, or cyclic C_{5-8} alkyl, piperazinyl or sulphonyl;

or Lig.e is of the formula Lig.e²

Lig.e²



wherein

at least one or all free ring atom or their substituents comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined

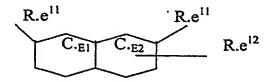
each spiro ring optionally comprises zero or one or more heteroatoms h

or (h) comprises zero or 1 N heteroatom and 5,6(h) comprises zero, 1 or 2 N heteroatoms and is unsaturated or comprises one or two -C=C- or -C=N- groups;

and wherein each ring is optionally substituted by one or more oxo, CO, COOH, C_{1-6} alkyl or linear or cyclic alkoxy optionally substituted by one or more oxo, CO, COOH, CN, or C_{1-6} alicyclic or amine groups, amine or one or more spiro or fused heterocycles;

or Lig.e is of the formula Lig.e³

Lig.e³



wherein

at least one or all of Re¹¹ to Re¹², or a ring C or heteroatom or ring substituent comprise a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined

each of C.El and C.El is independently selected from C₅₋₆ aryl, heteroaryl, cyloalkyl and heterocyclic, including phenyl, or aryl containing 1 or 2 ring heteroatoms, or heterocyclic containing 1 ring heteroatom and/or 1 ring -C=C- group;

each of up to seven R.e¹¹ is a substituent of a ring carbon or a ring heteroatom and: is independently selected from saturated or unsaturated, substituted or unsubstituted C₁₋₂₀ branched or straight chain aliphatic, aromatic, alicyclic and combinations thereof, any of which may comprise one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, P, and wherein optional substituents are selected from any C₁₋₁₂ aliphatic, aromatic or alicyclic substituents any of which may

or

comprise one or more heteroatoms as hereinbefore defined, hydroxy, thiol, halo, amine, hydrazine, oxo =O, or cyano, OCH₃, CH₂Ph(OCH₃)₂, O(CH₂)₃CON(CH₃)₂c.hex, N(CH₂CH₂OH)₂, c.hex, COOCH₂CH₃, CH₂CH₃;

any two or more of R.e. form a one, two or three ring fused cyclic structure, a fused 3 ring aryl, 5-heterocyclic or 6-heterocyclic structure having 4 ring atoms common with the fused bicyclic Lig.e structure;

and R.e¹² is a moiety as defined for R.e¹¹ above;

- L.e comprises a linking site or functionality J as hereinbefore defined and is suitably as hereinbefore defined for L.a.
- 10. Library as hereinbefore defined in any of Claims 1 to 9 wherein Fl is selected from dyes in particular including fluorescein, fluorescein derivatives including FITC, and fluorescein-like molecules including Oregon GreenTM and its derivatives, Texas redTM, 7-nitrobenz-2-oxa-1,3-diazole (NBD) and derivatives thereof, coumarin and derivatives, naphthalene including derivatives of dansyl chloride or its analogues or derivatives, Cascade BlueTM, EvoBlue and fluorescent derivatives thereof, pyrenes and pyridyloxazole derivatives, the cyanine dyes, the dyomics (DY dyes and ATTO dyes) and fluorescent derivatives thereof, the Alexafluor dyes and derivatives, BDI dyes including the commercially available BodipyTM dyes, erythosin, eosin, pyrenes, anthracenes, acridines, fluorescent phycobiliproteins and their conjugates and fluoresceinated microbeads, Rhodamine and fluorescent derivatives thereof including Rhodamine GreenTM including the tetramethylrhodamines, X-rhodamines and Texas Red derivatives, and Rhodol GreenTM, coupled to amine groups using the isocyanate, succinimidyl ester or dichlorotriazinyl-reactive groups.
- Library as claimed in Claim 10 wherein Fl is of formula $J_T t Fl$ and comprises a BODIPY TM structure characterised by a dipyrrometheneboron difluoride core, optionally modified by one or two fused rings, optionally substituted by one or several substituents selected from alkyl, alkoxy, aryl or heterocyclic, wherein one substituent -t- is adapted for linking as hereinbefore defined to a ligand precursor as hereinbefore defined, wherein the substituent -t- comprises a proximal unsaturated or aryl moiety, comprising a medial short, medium or long chain alkynyl or cycloalkyl moiety and comprising a moiety derived from linking via a reactive group as hereinbefore defined or selected from carboxyl, sulphonate or as a heteroatom O or S or methylene derived from linking at an alkylhalide including methylbromide, haloacetamide or sulphonate ester electrophilic group.
- 12. Library as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 11 comprising a plurality of compounds of the formula

 $\text{Lig } J_L L J_T Fl$

wherein any optically active fluorescent ligand is present as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers

wherein Fl is a fluorophore as hereinbefore defined in claim 10 or 11 and

wherein Lig J_L L J_T is selected from:

xanthine like structures

adenosine like structures;

ethanolamine like structures; and

oxypropanolamine like structures; wherein

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linking functionality J_T is amine; and

wherein linker L is selected from branched and straight chain C_{1-50} alkyl, C_{6-50} cycloalkyl or aryl and combinations thereof optionally comprising one or more heteroatoms O and optionally substituted by C_{1-12} aliphatic, or for xanthine like structures L is also selected from a single bond.

- 13. Process for the preparation of a library as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 12 which is a combinatorial process; and comprises the reaction of one or more ligand precursors of formula IV and/or IV'
- IV $(LigJ_L)_m L Y_{Lm}$

IV' Lig Y_{Ligm}

comprising one or more or different reactive groups Y_L or Y_{Lig} forming a linking functionality J, J_L or J_T as hereinbefore defined

with one or more of a plurality of analytical tagging substrates of formula V and/or V'

- V Y_{Tm} Tag
- V' $Y_{Tm} L (J_T Tag)_m$

comprising one or more or different reactive groups Y_T forming a linking functionality J or J_T as hereinbefore defined

and optionally one or more linking species VI or VI' or VI"

VI Y_{Lm}L Y_{Lm}

wherein Lig, J, L, J_T and Tag and each m is independently as hereinbefore defined wherein the or each compound of formula IV or IV' is capable of reaction with the or each compound of formula V or V', optionally via the or each species VI or VI' or VI' to form a plurality of compounds of formula I as hereinbefore defined;

wherein linking is at same or different reactive sites in different compounds as hereinbefore defined.

- Process for the preparation of a compound of formula I as hereinbefore defined in any of Claims 1 to 12 comprising the reaction of a compound of formula IV or IV' and a compound of formula V or V' and optionally additionally VI, as hereinbefore defined, by reacting the unprotected primary alkyl amine group of a compound of formula IV with a compound of formula V comprising a reactive succinimidyl ester group in solvent at ambient temperature without the need for subsequent deprotection.
- Process for the preparation of a compound of formula IV as hereinbefore defined in Claim 13 or 14 comprising: obtaining where commercially available or preparing the ligand precursor Lig, by routes as known in the art, and reacting with linker precursor VI', if required, or components thereof, and/or generating one or more reactive sites Y or Y_{Lig} or Y_L, by a method selected from:
- a), e) ring closure of 5,6-diamino-1,3-dialkyl uracil with the appropriate substituted aldehyde under acid conditions with ferric chloride,
- b) reacting Lig.b- comprising a protected inosine derivative with chlorinating agent and linking the chloro derivative with the amine group of a suitably protected amine reactive linker H-L-P_L wherein P_L comprises N-benzyloxycarbonyl- to form Lig.b -L-P_L and removing P_L to generate Lig.b -L.b; preferably R.b¹ comprises a OH terminating group and protected inosine comprises Acyl protecting groups or R.b¹ comprises a stable group such as amine or amide and protected inosine comprises 2,2-dimethoxypropane protecting group; preferably the protected inosine is reacted with

oxidising agent and protected alkylamine which is an N-alkylcarboxamide with removal of amine protecting group to generate a reactive ligand;

- c), d) reacting p-hydroxybenzaldehyde with formaldehyde under acid catalysis and protection of the resulting 4-hydroxy-3-hydroxymethylbenzaldehyde with dimethoxypropane to generate the resulting acetonide, converting the Benzaldehyde to its corresponding epoxide and ring opening with a suitably protected linker such as Boc-L.c-H supplies Lig_m-L-P_L, finally, deprotection under acid conditions supplies Lig_cCLc or Lig_cdLd for coupling to an appropriate tag.
- Method for selecting a compound of formula I from a library as claimed in any of claims 1 to 12 comprising the rational design of a library of compounds of formula I as hereinbefore defined using the process as hereinbefore defined in Claim 13, determining pharmacology for a plurality of or all compounds in the library and selecting a compound exhibiting desired pharmacology.
- Method as claimed in Claim 16 which comprises preparing a preliminary library of compounds, conducting screens to assess binding or inhibition, selecting a compound identified in the screen as having beneficial properties, and modifying or functionalising by nature of moieties or linking location of linking on the basis of the indications from the screen to prepare an optimised library, wherein the molecular pharmacology and photochemistry from the screen feedback into the design of the library.
- 18. A compound of formula I

 $(\operatorname{Lig} J_L)_m L (J_T \operatorname{Tag})_m (J_T L (J_L \operatorname{Lig})_m)_p$

or salt thereof as hereinbefore defined in Claim 1 or 2 or dependent claims wherein $JL_m L T_{Tm}$ is as hereinbefore defined in Claim 8 and wherein any optically active fluorescent ligand is present as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers.

- 19. A compound of formula II or III as hereinbefore defined in Claim 4 or dependent claims
- II (LigJ_L)_m L J_T TagJ_T L (J_L Lig)_m where each m is as hereinbefore defined and is preferably 1 or 2, more preferably 1
- III $(LigJ_L)_m L (J_TTag)_m$ wherein each m is as hereinbefore defined and is preferably 1 and/or 2, more preferably

Lig $J_L - L - J_L$ Tag and/or

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Lig } J_L - L - J_T \text{ Tag} & \text{and/or} & \text{Lig } J_L - L - J_T \text{ Tag} \\ & & \searrow_L \text{ Lig} & & \searrow_T \text{ Tag} \end{array}$$

as hereinbefore defined in Claim 4 and wherein any optically active fluorescent ligand is present as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers.

- 20. A compound according to Claim 18 or 19, wherein Lig or Fl is as hereinbefore defined in Claims 2, 6, 10 or 11.
- A compound of the formula I or I' as hereinbefore defined in any of Clairns 10 to 12 or 18 to 20 selected from formulae Lig.a_m L.a-Fl.a_n to Lig.e_m L.eFl.e_n as hereinbefore defined with the proviso that:



a) when Lig is XAC ie in Lig.a when each of R.a¹ and R.a² is propyl, R.a³ is H and R.a⁴ is -Ph-OCH₂CONH(CH₂)₂NH-, and L is a single bond or L is gly and n=3 or L is NCS, Fl is not fluorescein; or

when Lig is XAC and L is a single bond or NCS, Fl is not fluorescein or NBD;

b) when Lig is adenosine Fl is not Fmoc (CA 134:204756); or

when Lig is ADAC, ie R.b¹ is CH₂OH, R.b² and R.b³ are H and L is -(Ph-CH₂CONH)₂(CH₂)₂- or L is a single bond, Fl is not fluorescein, NBD or Rhodamine; or

when Lig is NECA (incorporating the moiety $-(CH_2)m$) ie R.b² and R.b³ are H and L is a single bond, or is $-(CH_2)m$ when m is 2,4,6,8 or 10 then Fl is not NBD, or when m is 3,4,6,8,10 or 12 then Fl is not dansyl; or

when Lig is N^6 -[2-(4-aminophenyl)ethyl]adenosine and L is $(CH_2)_2$ PhNH, Fl is not FITC (CA 131:56155 (8))

d) when Lig is CGP12177 and L (R.d²) is mono amine menthane, Fl is not BODIPY® TMR; or

when Lig is CGP12177 and L is 1,1,4,4-tetramethyl butylamine, i.e $C(CH_3)_2(CH_2)_2C(CH_3)_2NH$ - Fl is not BODIPY® FL, or when L is $C(CH_3)_2(CH_2)_2C(CH_3)_2NHCSNH$ - then Fl is not FITC, eosin or erythosin; or when L is monoamine menthane, Fl is not FITC (CA 131:56155 (4)); or

when Lig is CGP12177 and L is a single bond, Fl is not NBD; or

when Lig is alprenolol i.e o-prop-2-enyl phenyl and L is $-C(CH_3)_2$ - or a single bond, Fl is not NBD;

and a) -e) when L is a single bond, Fl is not BODIPY FL; optionally additionally

- a) when Lig is XAC ie in Lig.a when each of R.a¹ and R.a² is propyl, R.a³ is H and R.a⁴ is -Ph-OCH₂CONH(CH₂)₂NH-, and L is a single bond Fl is not BODIPY TM 630/650 X; or
- b) when Lig is ABEA, ie m is 4 and L is a single bond Fl is not BODIPYTM 630/650 X.

22. A compound of the formula

Lig J_L L J_T Fl as defined in any of claims 1 to 11 or 18 to 21

wherein any optically active fluorescent ligand is present as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers

wherein Fl is a fluorophore as hereinbefore defined in claim 10 or 11 and

wherein Lig J_L L J_T is selected from:

xanthine like structures

adenosine like structures;

ethanolamine like structures; and

oxypropanolamine like structures; wherein

linking functionality J_T is amine; and

wherein linker L is selected from branched and straight chain C_{1-50} alkyl, C_{6-50} cycloalkyl or aryl and combinations thereof optionally comprising one or more heteroatoms O and optionally substituted by C_{1-12} aliphatic, or for xanthine like structures L is also selected from a single bond,

with the proviso that the compound is not a compound excluded in Claim 21.

A kit comprising a Compound of formula I or I' as hereinbefore defined in any of Claims 1 or 2 to 12, or 18 to 22 associated with information relating to its



pharmacological properties in the form of Spectral Properties given as Excitation Max and Emission Max, Fluorescence Lifetime and Emission quantum yield and Pharmacology defined in terms of cells expressing a GPCR receptor as hereinbefore defined or expressing an intracellular cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterase, or a drug transporter as hereinbefore defined and given as the Inhibition or Antagonism of receptor binding or of receptor functionality together with a value for the Inhibition (pK_B) or Antagonism (pK_I) binding constants, and optionally together with fluorescent images of the pharmacological binding in single living cells illustrating the defined inhibition or antagonism, preferably the pharmacological properties are given as EC_{50} values for agonist stimulated — or pK_i values for antagonism of agonist stimulated second messenger generation, or substrate K_m values or antagonist K_i values for stimulation or inhibition of intracellular enzymes or drug transporters.

- Compound of formula IV or IV' or library thereof as hereinbefore defined in Claim 13 useful for linking to any suitable tag of formula V or V' as hereinbefore defined in Claim 13,
- wherein the linker moiety is of formula as defined in Claim 8.
- Fluorophore linker of formula V' or library thereof as hereinbefore defined in any of Claims 13 to 14 wherein the linker moiety is of formula as defined in Claim 8.
- Kit comprising ligand precursors, linker precursors and tag precursors of formulae IV, IV', V, V' and/or VI as hereinbefore defined in any of Claims 13 to 14 for preparing a library of compounds of formula I as hereinbefore defined in any of Claims 1 to 12.
- A library of fluorescent ligands of formula I or I' or a kit comprising a compound thereof as hereinbefore defined in any of Claims 1 or 2 to 12, or 18 to 23 for visualising receptors or receptor binding, assessing pharmacological properties of the fluorescent ligand, in high throughput screening of novel chemical entities that bind to the target receptor, in inhibiting an intracellular enzyme or inhibiting a drug transporter or a substrate of a drug transporter, in studying drug transport or drugs suitable for transport or in distinguishing healthy or diseased tissue.
- A library of fluorescent ligands of formula I or I' or a kit comprising a compound thereof thereof as hereinbefore defined in any of Claims 1 or 2 to 12, 18 to 23 for use in a method for receptor binding or inhibition, intracellular enzyme inhibition or drug transport or inhibition and visualisation comprising contacting a library or a compound thereof as defined in any of Claims 1 or 2 to 12 or 18 to 23 with a sample comprising live cell material comprising GPCRs, intracellular enzymes or drug transporters in manner to facilitate binding or inhibition thereof or transport thereby, and detecting changes in fluorescence or location thereof.
- 29. A library of fluorescent ligands of formula I or I' or a kit comprising a compound thereof for use as claimed in Claim 28 wherein the library or compound thereof is a fluorescent ligand(s) which has affinity such that it binds permanently, semi-permanently or transiently and remains bound when unbound ligand is washed away.
- 30. 'A library of fluorescent ligands of formula I or I' or a kit comprising a compound thereof for use as claimed in Claim 28 or 29 wherein detecting a change in



fluorescence is by means of confocal microscopy or fluorescence correlation spectroscopy.

- 31. A library of fluorescent ligands of formula I or I' or a kit comprising a compound thereof for use as claimed in any of claims 28 to 30 wherein the library or compound thereof comprises fluorescent ligand agonist(s) which maintain binding affinity and functional activity.
- A kit comprising a library or a compound of formula I or I' as claimed in any of Claims 1 or 2 to 12 or 18 to 23 and a target therefor provided as cell derived material selected from a cell line, expressing a GPCR, intracellular enzyme or drug transporter, membrane containing these proteins derived from such a cell line, solubilised receptor, enzyme or drug transporter or GPCR array from that cell line.
- 33 Kit as claimed in Claim 32 wherein the cell derived material is provided in one of three forms: (1) from cells expressing a green fluorescent protein tagged receptor, intracellular enzyme or drug transporter; (2) from cells expressing an epitope tag for a commercially available fluorescent antibody or (3) a wild-type protein for which a specific fluorescent antibody is also provided.
- 34. A library as hereinbefore defined in any of the preceding claims comprising a plurality of defined and characterised ligands having verified properties corresponding to those of the non-tagged ligand.
- 35. A library as hereinbefore defined in any of the preceding claims comprising tagged ligands designed from reaction of reactive precursor ligands and reactive fluorophores having reactive site chemical functionality suited for reaction with associated reagents, for site specific reaction and linking, wherein the library design is the result of extensive pharmacological investigation of all or many of the possible linking sites and the resulting pharmacological characteristics and selection of one or more linking combinations which provide favorable binding, inhibition or transport characteristics.
- 36. A library or compound as hereinbefore defined in any of the preceding claims wherein the or each Fl is selected from any red, near ir or blue absorbing dye or from BODIPY® 630/650 or BODIPY® 630/650 X.
- 37. Library as claimed in Claim 12 comprising a plurality of compounds of the formula

Lig J_L L J_T Fl

wherein any optically active fluorescent ligand is present as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers

wherein Fl is selected from any fluorophore as defined in Claim 10 or 11 and wherein Lig J_L L J_T is selected from the formulae Lig.a, Lig.b, Lig.c and Lig.d wherein:

Lig.a comprises linking functionality J_L which is amine, and is of the formula, in either of the following forms given:



Lig.a 1 m

wherein

 Ra^4 comprises linking functionality J_L and J_T which is amine;

 X^1 and X^2 are each O;

 $R.a^3$ is H;

each of R.a¹ and R.a² is n-propyl;

R.a⁴ is p- substituted phenyl wherein the substituent is heteroalkyl amide amine; and includes L which is a single bond or is C_{1-50} alkyl optionally substituted by C_1 alkyl and including the formula $-(CH_2)_n$ where n is 3 to 8, optionally including one or more heteroatoms -O;

Lig.b comprises linking functionality J_L which is amine, and is

wherein

ring substituents X.b1 and X.b2 are each OH;

ring heteroatom X.b³ is -O-:

Rb¹ is CONHEt or CH₂OH;

and each of R.b² and R.b³ is H;

Rb⁴ is H;

 Rb^5 comprises linking functionality J_T which is amino, and linker L.b selected from saturated C_{1-12} aliphatic and C_{6-24} aromatic, optionally substituted by one or more C_1 alkyl and optionally including one or more heteroatoms O or cyclic groups;

Lig.c comprises linking functionality J_L which is amine and is

as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers wherein * indicates an optically active centre,

Rc¹ is m-, p- dihydroxyphenyl; and



 Rc^2 comprises linking functionality J_T which is amine, and linker L.c which is selected from C_{1-12} straight chain alkyl, C_{6-12} cycloalkyl or aryl and combinations thereof optionally comprising one or more heteroatoms O and optionally substituted by C_1 aliphatic;

or Lig.d comprises a linking functionality J_L which is amine and is

as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers wherein * indicates an optically active centre,

Rd1 is selected from the structures

and a substituted C_{1-20} spiro aromatic ring system comprising a single aromatic ring and a heteroaryl and optionally halo substituted; and

 Rd^2 comprises linking functionality J_T which is amine, and linker L.d which is selected from C_{1-12} straight chain alkyl, C_{6-12} cycloalkyl or aryl and combinations thereof optionally comprising one or more heteroatoms O and optionally substituted by C_1 aliphatic; or Rd^2 is C_{1-6} straight chain alkyl including ether O and substituted by C_{6-10} aryl which is OH and oxo substituted and comprises linker L.d as hereinbefore defined.

38. Library as claimed in claim 37 wherein

R.a⁴, R.b⁵ or R.c² or R.d² comprises linking functionality J_T which is amino, and linker L.a, L.b, L.c or L.d selected from (CH₂)m wherein m is 3, 4, 6 or 8 or is in the range 3 to 8 or 2 to 12 optionally including one or more substituents C_1 , or J_L L J_T is mono or polyethylene glycol diamine, or L.a is a single bond; or

 $R.c^2$ or $R.d^2$ comprises linking functionality J_T which is amino, and linker L.c or L.d selected from $C(CH_3)_2CH_2Ph$ and mono amino menthane or the structure

$$NH_2$$
 $H = \begin{pmatrix} NH_2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

or Rd^2 comprises the following OH substituted aryl structure wherein linking functionality J_L is shown as amine, Ld is as hereinabove defined and includes J_T which is amine:

- 39. Library as claimed in Claim 37 or 38 wherein Fl is selected from any red, near ir or blue dye.
- 40. Library as claimed in Claim 37 or 38 wherein Fl is selected from BODIPY 630/650 X and BODIPY 630/650.
- 41. Library as claimed in any of the preceding Claims comprising a compound selected from the following structures wherein any optically active fluorescent ligand is present as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers:

XAC - BODIPY 630/650 X

ABA-BY630



ABEA-BY630

APEA-BY 630

ABIPEA - BY630

and

Salmeterol BY 630/650

Clenbuterol BY 630/650

CGP12177-BY 630/650

Propranolol BY630/650

ICI118551-BY630/650

Alprenolol-BY630/650

42. Compound as claimed in Claim 21 of the formula

Lig J_L L J_T Fl

wherein any optically active fluorescent ligand is present as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers

wherein Fl is selected from any fluorophore as defined in Claim 10 or 11 and wherein Lig J_L L J_T is selected from the formulae Lig.a, Lig.b, Lig.c and Lig.d wherein:

Lig.a comprises linking functionality J_L which is amine, and is of the formula, in either of the following forms given:

Lig.a 1_m

wherein

 Ra^4 comprises linking functionality J_L and J_T which is amine; X^1 and X^2 are each O:

 $R.a^3$ is H;

each of R.al and R.al is n-propyl;

R.a⁴ is p- substituted phenyl wherein the substituent is heteroalkyl amide amine; and includes L which is a single bond or is C_{1-50} alkyl optionally substituted by C_1 alkyl and including the formula $-(CH_2)_n$ where n is 3 to 8, optionally including one or more heteroatoms -O;

Lig.b comprises linking functionality J_L which is amine, and is

$$Rb^{1} \xrightarrow{b^{3}} N \qquad Rb^{4} \\ NRb_{5} \\ N \xrightarrow{1_{b.X}} X.b^{2} \qquad N \xrightarrow{Rb^{2}} N$$

wherein ring substituents X.b¹ and X.b² are each OH;

ring heteroatom X.b3 is -O-;

Rb¹ is CONHEt or CH₂OH; and each of R.b² and R.b³ is H;

Rb⁴ is H;

 ${\rm Rb}^5$ comprises linking functionality ${\rm J}_{\rm T}$ which is amino, and linker L.b selected from saturated ${\rm C}_{1-12}$ aliphatic and ${\rm C}_{6-24}$ aromatic, optionally substituted by one or more ${\rm C}_1$ alkyl and optionally including one or more heteroatoms O or cyclic groups;

Lig.c comprises linking functionality J' which is amine and is

as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers wherein * indicates an optically active centre,

Rc is m-, p- dihydroxyphenyl; and

 Rc^2 comprises linking functionality J_T which is amine, and linker L.c which is selected from C_{1-12} straight chain alkyl, C_{6-12} cycloalkyl or aryl and combinations thereof optionally comprising one or more heteroatoms O and optionally substituted by C_1 aliphatic;

or Lig.d comprises a linking functionality J_L which is amine and is

as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers wherein * indicates an optically active centre,

Rd1 is selected from the structures

and a substituted C_{1-20} spiro aromatic ring system comprising a single aromatic ring and a heteroaryl and optionally halo substituted; and

 Rd^2 comprises linking functionality J_T which is amine, and linker L.d which is selected from C_{1-12} straight chain alkyl, C_{6-12} cycloalkyl or aryl and combinations thereof optionally comprising one or more heteroatoms O and optionally substituted by C_1 aliphatic; or Rd^2 is C_{1-6} straight chain alkyl including ether O and substituted by C_{6-10} aryl which is OH and oxo substituted and comprises linker L.d as hereinbefore defined,

with the proviso that the compound is not a compound excluded in Claim 18.

43. Compound as claimed in Claim 42 wherein R.a⁴, R.b⁵ or R.c² or R.d² comprises linking functionality J_T which is amino, and linker L.a, L.b, L.c or L.d selected from (CH₂)m wherein m is 3, 4, 6 or 8 or is in the range 3 to 8 or 2 to 12 optionally including one or more substituents C₁, or J_L L J_T is mono or polyethylene glycol diamine, or L.a is a single bond; or

 $R.c^2$ or $R.d^2$ comprises linking functionality J_T which is amino, and linker L.c or L.d selected from $C(CH_3)_2CH_2Ph$ and mono amino menthane or the structure

$$NH_2$$
 $H = \begin{pmatrix} NH_2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}_3$

or Rd^2 comprises the following OH substituted aryl structure wherein linking functionality J_L is shown as amine, Ld is as hereinabove defined and includes J_T which is amine:

with the proviso that the compound is not a compound excluded in Claim 21.

- 44. Compound as claimed in Claim 42 or 43 wherein Fl is selected from any red, near ir or blue dye.
- 45. Compound as claimed in Claim 42 or 43 wherein Fl is selected from BODIPY 630/650 X and BODIPY 630/650.
- 46. Compound selected from the structures wherein any optically active fluorescent ligand is present as a racemate or as one of its optically active isomers:

ABA-BY630

APEA-BY 630

and

Salmeterol BY 630/650

Clenbuterol BY 630/650

CGP12177-BY 630/650

Propranolol BY630/650

ICI118551-BY630/650

Alprenolol-BY630/650

and optionally additionally

XAC - BODIPY 630/650 X

or

ABEA-BY630.